

**Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it...** Psalm 127:1a

**Worship:**

**Tabernacle Worship Service**

**Every Sunday Evening**

St. John's Parish House

75 East Main St. South Pottstown 5:30 pm

**Ministry:**

**The Table**

**Every Wednesday Evening**

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

**Home Churches:**

**Hanover St. Home Church**

**Tuesday Evenings**

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19456

7:00 to 9:00

**Buddy's Home Church**

**Thursday Afternoons**

Sports Corner Bar, York St

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm



**Community Table 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Evening**  
Each Month – Check with Church  
for Transportation Arrangements  
6:00 to 8:00

**Norman's Game Night**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Evening** Each Month

Locations to be announced

**This Year's Theme:**

hearing God in 2008

**Your Prayer Notes:**

**The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.**

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we ready the shelter for the fall.

Please pray for Norman to be able to find meaningful, and Godly volunteer work to keep himself busy and fulfilled since leaving his job at Staples.

Merciful LORD, please help us to walk humbly before you, seeking to be instruments of in furtherance of your kingdom. Amen.

Kathy, Elma, & Neil, all need to find a place to live. Please pray for them, and let them know if you know of a place. You could be part of God's directing them to their own homes.

Pray for Francis' health and for her brother-in-law's (Hank) health too.

**Next Week's Scriptures:**

**September 7, 2008**

**Proper 18 (Year A)**

**exodus 12.1-14, psalm 149,**

**matthew 18.15-20, & romans 13.8-14**

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**still waters** of Pottstown  
home churches & worship center  
"He restores my soul . . . surely goodness and mercy will follow me" Psalm 23

August 31 = 2008

**Spiritual Politics**  
Or, an unlikely National Defense



**Worship**

exodus 3.1-15

psalm 105.1-6, 23-26

matthew 16.21-28

romans 12.9-21

**Benediction**

**Tabernacle Worship**

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

Every Sunday Evening at 5:30, St. John's Parish House

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Still Waters is a member church of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, P.O. Box 384 Winona Lake, IN 46590



[Service]

## Tonight...

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 105.1-6, 23-26

Worship Film ::

“Rescue Me”

Congregation Song Worship ::

~ offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy

Scripture Reading ::

Exodus 3.1-15

Focus Film ::

“Isaiah 42”

The Scripture ~

## Spiritual Politics

Or, an unlikely National Defense

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

Matthew 16.24- 26

This week's Lectionary:  
exodus 3.1-15, psalm 105.1-6, 23-26,  
matthew 16.21-28, & romans 12.9-21

Reflection Film ::

“The Journey”

Benediction ::

Revelation 22.12-14, 16-17, 20-21



[Journaling Worship  
your discussion notes...  
for this Week's Church Discussion]

✚ stumbling over rocks

✚ What's in a Name?

✚ Heaven comes Home



**Meditation:**

*Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey..." Exodus 3.7-8a*

**Reflection:**

God's promise of land to Israel is not only a response to unjust suffering; it is the beginning of a land system in which God demands social justice.

Jesus' example teaches that power will not effect change; only powerlessness will. We are faced with the historic, unique, and truly incredible fact that the redemption of the human race came about through a supreme act of powerlessness on the part of one who could have acted otherwise.

God's command to love our enemies is so important, because following Jesus will inevitably lead us to enmity with the world's ruling principalities - but in all situations, we can put our hope and trust in Him alone.

still waters

home church studies

## Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26 [Worship]

1 O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. 3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. 4 Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually. 5 Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, 6 O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

23 Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham. 24 And the LORD made his people very fruitful, and made them stronger than their foes, 25 whose hearts he then turned to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants. 26 He sent his servant Moses, and Aaron whom he had chosen.

### Consider:

[Think & Pray...]

God's fiery words make plain the Creator's preferential option for the poor and suffering: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters....I have come down to deliver them...to a land flowing with milk and honey" (Exodus 3:7-8). God calls Moses to lead the people to freedom, wholeness, and a multi-layered peace: shalom.

Here is the spiritual-political tradition in which Paul can stand and proclaim the vision of Jesus: "[E]xtend hospitality to strangers"; "Bless those who persecute you"; "Do not repay anyone evil for evil"; "If your enemies are hungry, feed them";

and "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:13-21). Paul exhorts in the tradition of God speaking to Moses through a burning bush.

The liberation wrought by a Moses or a Paul never comes without social struggle and personal suffering. Jesus rebukes Peter for his enormous miscalculation that suffering would not be required (Matthew 16:23).

Blessing those who persecute? Feeding our enemies? Trusting God and not nuclear gods for deliverance? It will come with the renewal of our minds, the redemption of our dreams, and the consuming voice of God in our ears. One day, a change will come. - **Robert Roth**



[The Scripture]

## Romans 12.9-21

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." 20 No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.